

Q3
degrees, and at which position the hinge is disposed upstream at an angle to the longitudinal direction relative to the movable plate, so that the plate provides a force against the particulate material to inhibit the particulate material from free flowing at a speed greater than the conveying speed of the conveying belt.

Q4
11. (Amended) a device for feeding particulate material, comprising:
means for conveying the material in a first longitudinal direction;
a movable plate located above at least a second portion of the conveying means, the plate pivotally mounted by a hinge and movable to at least one position where the plate is at an angle to the forward longitudinal direction and the angle is greater than 0 and less than 90 degrees, and at which position the hinge is disposed upstream at an angle to the longitudinal direction relative to the movable plate, so that the plate provides a force against the particulate material to inhibit the particulate material from free flowing at a speed greater than the conveying speed of the conveying belt; and
means for urging the movable plate against the material to apply [a] the force against the material.

Q5
16. (Amended) A method for feeding particulate material, comprising:
conveying the material in a first longitudinal direction; and
urging a movable plate against the material to apply a force against the material in a direction other than the first longitudinal direction, the plate pivotally mounted by a hinge and movable to at least one position where the plate is at an angle to the forward longitudinal direction and the angle is greater than 0 and less than 90 degrees, and at which position the hinge